

## Door County Budget Survey – RESULTS SUMMARY

The Door County Committee on Finance is requesting citizen input on the importance of programs and services provided by the County.

All local governments in the state are dealing with fiscal challenges, and Door County is no exception. The State of Wisconsin has imposed a property tax levy cap on local governments including counties (likely to be around 2% for Door County). State aids to counties to fund mandatory programs have been frozen or reduced and costs to provide services continue to increase at rates higher than the Consumer Price Index.

The cost to continue programs and services at the same level as past years creates a certain amount of budgetary pressure. Your input and opinion of the importance and priority of county programs is of great interest to the Committee on Finance and the Committee intends to use the results of this survey as one of the information sources in developing budgets for Door County.

The Committee thanks you for your participation.

	Unnecessary	Low	Medium	High	Critical	Response Average	% Responses Medium or Higher
<b>Public Safety</b>							
Law Enforcement - patrol, investigation, SWAT, warrants, courthouse security, etc.	1% (9)	8% (56)	21% (146)	<b>37% (254)</b>	33% (224)	<b>3.91</b>	91
Jail - secure and work release jail operations	2% (13)	16% (106)	<b>38% (261)</b>	30% (206)	14% (95)	<b>3.39</b>	82
Alternatives to incarceration - alcohol and drug abuse counseling, electronic monitoring, community service, etc.	2% (13)	13% (91)	32% (219)	<b>34% (229)</b>	19% (131)	<b>3.55</b>	85
Communications Center – E911 dispatch	0% (2)	3% (22)	12% (83)	31% (214)	<b>53% (363)</b>	<b>4.34</b>	96
EMS Committee - emergency medical services planning and policy coordination	2% (11)	10% (64)	28% (186)	<b>38% (251)</b>	23% (155)	<b>3.71</b>	89
Ambulance Service – Coordinate activities of Emergency Medical Services Department in emergency transport and care of the sick and injured.	1% (5)	4% (30)	15% (102)	39% (263)	<b>41% (282)</b>	<b>4.15</b>	95
Medical Examiner - death investigations	3% (20)	28% (191)	<b>44% (296)</b>	20% (136)	5% (35)	<b>2.96</b>	69
Emergency Management - disaster/emergency planning	3% (20)	20% (137)	<b>37% (253)</b>	27% (185)	12% (84)	<b>3.26</b>	76
DARE - Drug Abuse Resistance Education and community outreach	10% (70)	22% (146)	<b>34% (231)</b>	25% (173)	9% (59)	<b>3.01</b>	68
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>695</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>107</b>	
<b>Judicial</b>							
Circuit Courts - court system for all criminal matters	0% (3)	7% (45)	<b>38% (255)</b>	37% (247)	17% (113)	<b>3.64</b>	92
Circuit Courts - court system for all civil matters	1% (4)	13% (85)	<b>45% (298)</b>	30% (197)	12% (78)	<b>3.39</b>	87
District Attorney - prosecutorial function for all crimes	1% (4)	9% (60)	<b>39% (259)</b>	35% (227)	16% (106)	<b>3.57</b>	90
District Attorney - Victim / Witness program	2% (16)	14% (91)	<b>44% (293)</b>	30% (195)	10% (64)	<b>3.30</b>	84
Clerk of Court - administrative support for court system	2% (12)	14% (92)	<b>48% (315)</b>	28% (185)	8% (55)	<b>3.27</b>	84
Register in Probate - supervises probate of estates and trusts, administrative support for guardianships and commitments for court system	1% (7)	22% (146)	<b>50% (329)</b>	21% (139)	6% (37)	<b>3.08</b>	77
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>670</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>132</b>	

	Unnecessary	Low	Medium	High	Critical	Response Average	% Responses Medium or Higher
<b>Human Services / Social Services / Community Programs / Public Health / Veterans</b>							
<b>Social Services / Community Programs</b>							
Safety and protection for children who are abused or neglected	0% (1)	3% (21)	15% (98)	<b>44% (287)</b>	37% (243)	<b>4.15</b>	96
Services for adults and children with mental illness	1% (7)	7% (48)	31% (198)	<b>43% (275)</b>	18% (117)	<b>3.69</b>	92
Services for adults and children who are developmentally disabled (DD) or developmentally delayed	1% (9)	10% (65)	35% (222)	<b>40% (254)</b>	14% (92)	<b>3.55</b>	89
Services for frail elderly and physically disabled	0% (1)	8% (51)	31% (198)	<b>42% (269)</b>	20% (126)	<b>3.73</b>	93
Services for youth offenders	3% (22)	14% (87)	<b>37% (235)</b>	36% (231)	10% (65)	<b>3.36</b>	83
Financial, employment and economic assistance - W2, Food Stamps, Child Care, and Medical Assistance	6% (37)	17% (110)	<b>35% (226)</b>	30% (192)	12% (77)	<b>3.25</b>	77
Services for adults and youth with alcohol and/or other drug abuse problems	5% (32)	18% (119)	<b>34% (230)</b>	27% (185)	16% (108)	<b>3.32</b>	77
Recruitment, development, licensing and training of foster care and kinship care providers, and the certification of adult family home providers	4% (27)	19% (119)	<b>40% (255)</b>	27% (174)	10% (63)	<b>3.20</b>	77
Fraud investigation and recovery	3% (19)	20% (130)	<b>49% (312)</b>	22% (141)	6% (36)	<b>3.07</b>	77
Juvenile Intake – Initial assessment for juvenile offenders or juveniles in need of protection	3% (16)	14% (91)	<b>39% (246)</b>	34% (218)	10% (63)	<b>3.35</b>	83
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>686</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>116</b>	
<b>Aging Programs</b>							
Nutrition Programs	7% (45)	19% (121)	<b>39% (245)</b>	26% (167)	9% (56)	<b>3.11</b>	74
Meals - home delivered and meal sites	4% (26)	13% (81)	<b>39% (248)</b>	29% (185)	15% (92)	<b>3.37</b>	83
Energy Assistance	3% (21)	16% (99)	<b>36% (224)</b>	31% (193)	14% (91)	<b>3.37</b>	83
Information / Outreach	7% (44)	24% (148)	<b>41% (258)</b>	21% (133)	6% (40)	<b>2.96</b>	68
Senior Resource Center – Sturgeon Bay	5% (30)	17% (108)	<b>42% (264)</b>	28% (176)	9% (57)	<b>3.19</b>	79
Elder Abuse and Neglect Investigations	2% (13)	14% (87)	<b>34% (212)</b>	33% (208)	18% (112)	<b>3.50</b>	85
Protective Placement and Guardianship services	3% (18)	18% (117)	<b>38% (238)</b>	30% (193)	11% (67)	<b>3.27</b>	79
Supportive Home Care Services	3% (22)	15% (96)	33% (206)	<b>35% (219)</b>	14% (89)	<b>3.41</b>	82
Transportation	4% (26)	17% (107)	<b>33% (212)</b>	30% (189)	16% (102)	<b>3.37</b>	79
Benefit counseling	7% (43)	23% (142)	<b>42% (264)</b>	20% (128)	8% (51)	<b>3.00</b>	70
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>643</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>159</b>	
<b>Public Health</b>							
Environmental Health - Household Sharps Collection Program, short term radon test kits for sale at low price, animal bite investigation and follow-up.	8% (51)	34% (213)	<b>41% (258)</b>	13% (82)	4% (26)	<b>2.71</b>	58
Maternal and Child Health	4% (23)	16% (98)	<b>38% (227)</b>	33% (199)	10% (58)	<b>3.28</b>	81
Adult Health - Blood Pressure Screening, Worksite Health Promotion, Flu Vaccine administration, Tetanus Boosters, Nutrition Education, WI Women's Cancer Control Program, Home Visits, Foot Clinics for Seniors, Jail Health Services	5% (32)	19% (119)	<b>40% (255)</b>	28% (176)	8% (53)	<b>3.16</b>	76
Community Health Education (Nutrition, Aids/HIV, Tobacco, Parenting, Child Health and Safety, Adolescent Health, Radon, Injury Prevention)	10% (62)	28% (175)	<b>40% (254)</b>	18% (114)	4% (26)	<b>2.79</b>	62
School Health - programs for hearing and vision screening	8% (54)	17% (111)	<b>38% (242)</b>	27% (172)	9% (59)	<b>3.11</b>	74
Communicable Disease follow-up and investigation	4% (27)	19% (121)	<b>38% (245)</b>	28% (177)	11% (68)	<b>3.22</b>	77
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>646</b>	

	Unnecessary	Low	Medium	High	Critical	Response Average	% Responses Medium or Higher
(skipped this question)						<b>156</b>	
<b>Veterans Service Office</b>							
Federal and State benefits programs	4% (26)	16% (102)	<b>40% (257)</b>	27% (172)	12% (79)	<b>3.28</b>	79
Education / Outreach	8% (48)	24% (155)	<b>40% (254)</b>	21% (130)	7% (47)	<b>2.96</b>	68
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>645</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>157</b>	
<b>Child Support</b>							
Establish and enforce child and medical support orders	3% (17)	10% (62)	34% (220)	<b>39% (251)</b>	15% (94)	<b>3.53</b>	88
Establishment of paternity for children who do not have a father listed on their birth certificate	9% (56)	27% (170)	<b>37% (234)</b>	20% (126)	9% (55)	<b>2.93</b>	66
Commencement of administrative and/or legal actions to enforce collection	3% (18)	13% (82)	35% (227)	<b>36% (228)</b>	13% (85)	<b>3.44</b>	84
Recovery of money due the State of Wisconsin as repayment of amounts expended for certain public benefits	5% (29)	16% (103)	<b>33% (210)</b>	32% (201)	14% (92)	<b>3.35</b>	79
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>648</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>154</b>	
<b>Transportation – Highway and Airport</b>							
<b>County highways are those mostly rural roads identified by a letter such as highway "Q"</b>							
County Highways: Sign and Line Painting	2% (10)	15% (95)	<b>47% (306)</b>	29% (188)	8% (52)	<b>3.27</b>	84
County Highways: Crack Filling	1% (7)	14% (89)	<b>51% (328)</b>	28% (179)	6% (38)	<b>3.24</b>	85
County Highways: Pothole patching, ditch cleaning, culvert repairs, other general maintenance	1% (4)	8% (53)	<b>42% (272)</b>	39% (255)	10% (65)	<b>3.50</b>	91
County Highways: Mowing	10% (68)	33% (211)	<b>40% (262)</b>	14% (92)	2% (16)	<b>2.66</b>	56
County Highways: Snow plowing	0% (3)	3% (19)	17% (113)	<b>45% (289)</b>	34% (223)	<b>4.10</b>	96
County Highways: Road & bridge reconstruction	1% (7)	10% (67)	<b>41% (265)</b>	36% (232)	12% (76)	<b>3.47</b>	89
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>652</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>150</b>	
<b>State highways are those roads identified by a number such as STH 42 and STH 57. The county contracts with D.O.T. to do this work.</b>							
State Highway: Snow plowing	0% (3)	2% (13)	15% (98)	40% (259)	<b>42% (274)</b>	<b>4.22</b>	97
State Highway: All other maintenance work	1% (6)	6% (40)	37% (241)	<b>41% (266)</b>	14% (91)	<b>3.61</b>	92
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>646</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>156</b>	
<b>Local highways are those roads identified by a proper name such as Mathey Road. The county contracts with towns, villages or cities to assist with their work.</b>							
Local Highways: All contracted work to assist other agencies	3% (17)	12% (79)	<b>47% (301)</b>	31% (200)	7% (48)	<b>3.28</b>	85
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>642</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>160</b>	
<b>Airport</b>							
Cherryland Airport	10% (71)	31% (219)	<b>34% (240)</b>	12% (84)	12% (82)	<b>2.84</b>	58
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>693</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>109</b>	

	Unnecessary	Low	Medium	High	Critical	Response Average	% Responses Medium or Higher
<b>Leisure &amp; Education</b>							
Parks Operations - beaches; boat launching ramps; biking, hiking, horseback riding, skiing, and snowmobile trails, pavilions, picnic areas, restroom facilities.	2% (10)	11% (73)	37% (239)	<b>38% (249)</b>	12% (80)	<b>3.49</b>	87
John Miles County Park – mowing of Soccer fields	11% (69)	37% (238)	<b>38% (245)</b>	12% (78)	2% (12)	<b>2.57</b>	52
UW-Extension Educational Programs - the county-University partnership that provides research-based educational services and programs in the areas of: agricultural profitability, home and commercial horticulture, parenting, 4-H/youth development, consumer decisions, land use, economic development and nutrition education	8% (53)	22% (139)	<b>43% (278)</b>	21% (134)	6% (36)	<b>2.94</b>	70
Fairs and Exhibits - provides leadership and growth opportunities for youth and adults in a family oriented atmosphere during the Door County Fair	10% (66)	31% (200)	<b>41% (268)</b>	13% (86)	4% (26)	<b>2.70</b>	58
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>649</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>153</b>	
<b>Museum</b>							
Operation of Door County Historical Museum	6% (36)	26% (172)	<b>46% (299)</b>	17% (114)	5% (31)	<b>2.90</b>	68
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>643</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>159</b>	
<b>Library</b>							
Operation of Sturgeon Bay Library Headquarters	1% (4)	7% (45)	23% (154)	<b>50% (330)</b>	19% (126)	<b>3.80</b>	92
Operation of seven branch libraries (Baileys Harbor, Egg Harbor, Ephraim, Fish Creek, Forestville, Sister Bay/Liberty Grove and Washington Island)	5% (31)	12% (76)	32% (212)	<b>36% (234)</b>	15% (100)	<b>3.45</b>	83
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>652</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>150</b>	
<b>Conservation / Land Use / Land Records</b>							
<b>Conservation</b>							
Clean Sweep Programs	5% (32)	22% (128)	<b>39% (228)</b>	24% (141)	10% (58)	<b>3.11</b>	73
Land Conservation - Preparation of conservation and construction plans for landowners to address the conservation and environmental needs of their land and land use. The plans can address: Nonpoint pollution of the ground or surface waters, Soil erosion, Tree planting, well testing, Surface water runoff and more	4% (25)	16% (102)	30% (186)	<b>31% (197)</b>	19% (119)	<b>3.45</b>	80
Assists the landowner in the implementation of the plan, the office seeks County, State and Federal cost-share funds on behalf of the landowner.	5% (34)	23% (143)	<b>38% (238)</b>	23% (142)	11% (70)	<b>3.11</b>	72
Serves as a source of information about: Soils, Topography, Geology, Water quality, and other natural resources to assist in landowner's better management of the natural resources of the County	5% (29)	22% (136)	<b>37% (232)</b>	26% (164)	11% (66)	<b>3.16</b>	74
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>636</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>166</b>	

	Unnecessary	Low	Medium	High	Critical	Response Average	% Responses Medium or Higher
<b>Land Use / Land Records</b>							
Administration and enforcement of the county's zoning ordinances and land division ordinance	2% (13)	11% (70)	33% (210)	<b>36% (229)</b>	17% (107)	<b>3.55</b>	86
Preparation of a variety of community development plans including the county's development plan	4% (22)	17% (108)	<b>38% (241)</b>	29% (181)	12% (75)	<b>3.29</b>	79
Giving advice to local public officials on a variety of community development plans or projects involving such topics as: Outdoor recreation, Historic preservation, Land use controls, Downtown improvement, and Environmental protection.	6% (39)	21% (129)	<b>39% (246)</b>	26% (160)	8% (53)	<b>3.09</b>	73
Real Property Listing - maintains data relating to real estate ownership	2% (14)	18% (115)	<b>40% (249)</b>	28% (176)	12% (75)	<b>3.29</b>	80
Register of Deeds - document recording for property transfers, births, deaths, business incorporations, etc	1% (8)	9% (54)	<b>37% (230)</b>	34% (215)	19% (118)	<b>3.61</b>	90
Regional Planning Commission - multi-county planning activities	10% (61)	25% (154)	<b>37% (231)</b>	22% (138)	6% (39)	<b>2.90</b>	65
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>634</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>168</b>	
<b>Sanitarian</b>							
Sanitary permits for all private sewage disposal systems constructed within Door County.	1% (7)	6% (39)	22% (142)	<b>38% (239)</b>	33% (207)	<b>3.95</b>	93
Involved with other environmental health problems associated with the County.	3% (21)	11% (71)	32% (198)	<b>36% (224)</b>	18% (112)	<b>3.54</b>	86
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>633</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>169</b>	
<b>General Government</b>							
County Board and Committee Operations	2% (13)	21% (130)	<b>49% (301)</b>	22% (135)	5% (31)	<b>3.07</b>	76
Corporation Counsel - in-house attorney operations, mental commitments, termination of parental rights, etc.	3% (17)	15% (89)	<b>45% (274)</b>	30% (185)	8% (46)	<b>3.25</b>	83
County Administrator - manages overall county operations	5% (31)	14% (87)	<b>40% (247)</b>	32% (197)	8% (49)	<b>3.24</b>	80
Personnel - employee management, labor negotiations, Safety / Risk Management,	3% (17)	22% (133)	<b>48% (293)</b>	24% (149)	3% (20)	<b>3.04</b>	79
Information Systems - manages county computer operations	2% (11)	11% (68)	<b>46% (281)</b>	29% (180)	12% (76)	<b>3.39</b>	87
Maintenance - manages mechanical systems and buildings and grounds	1% (4)	14% (83)	<b>48% (292)</b>	30% (184)	8% (51)	<b>3.32</b>	86
Centralized Services - Purchasing, Printing and photo copying,	4% (22)	24% (149)	<b>49% (299)</b>	18% (107)	5% (32)	<b>2.96</b>	72
Finance - general accounting, accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll	1% (4)	10% (62)	<b>47% (288)</b>	32% (197)	10% (60)	<b>3.40</b>	89
County Clerk - county board minutes, marriage licenses, dog licenses, elections, Fleet Cars (vehicle pool for county business travel), Mail Room	3% (17)	21% (127)	<b>46% (284)</b>	24% (146)	7% (41)	<b>3.11</b>	77
Treasurer - Property tax processing and collection, public sale of delinquent tax properties.	2% (11)	13% (78)	<b>41% (249)</b>	33% (201)	12% (71)	<b>3.40</b>	86
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>624</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>178</b>	

	Unnecessary	Low	Medium	High	Critical	Response Average	% Responses Medium or Higher
<b>Other</b>							
<b>Economic Development</b>							
Economic Development Corporation - multi-partner economic development agency	10% (59)	26% (158)	<b>38% (234)</b>	19% (118)	7% (42)	<b>2.88</b>	64
NEW North – broad private sector and municipal funded agency which coordinates economic development efforts among officials in the 18 county area (Brown, Calumet, Door, Florence, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Sheboygan, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago).	15% (89)	33% (198)	<b>35% (213)</b>	14% (86)	4% (22)	<b>2.60</b>	53
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>622</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>180</b>	
<b>Community Agencies</b>							
Public Access TV – Taping / broadcast of County Board meetings	18% (115)	<b>38% (235)</b>	26% (160)	14% (85)	5% (30)	<b>2.49</b>	45
Public Access TV – Taping / broadcast of County Committee meetings	23% (141)	<b>37% (232)</b>	25% (154)	11% (66)	4% (27)	<b>2.36</b>	40
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>625</b>	
(skipped this question)						<b>177</b>	
<b>Comments</b>							
<i>See comments stating on next page.</i>							

## 2006 Door County Citizen Survey – SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

Taxes / Budget / Spending
Quit spending.....People can NOT have taxes rised anymore you have to hold and quit spening. we all have to so we continue to pay our bills and live in Door County.
Lower our property taxes please. Less government interference. More power to local government.
I THINK THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS ARE A NECESSITY FOR A BETTER DOOR COUNTY. THANKS FOR ALL YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.
Don't borrow, Don't raise the taxes, cut services to balalce the budget
I definitely DO NOT support the idea of borrowing money to balance the budget. I don't like the idea of paying more taxes. But if it is necessary, I would prefer that to incurring a debt that our children and grandchildren will be forced to pay.
I believe the county is operating in what appears to be an "open check" type approach. We simply cannot do it all and like the public schools, cuts MUST BE MADE! Borrowing money is simply a bad idea,even if it is currently used by many communities. Public schools must go to binding referendums if they wish to raise more money, county government simply has to spend now and tax later. We now have a new jail, a new county shop, and a soon to be rejuvenated government building located in downtown Sturgeon Bay....and now we have Mr. Serpe suggesting that we simply borrow the money...I believe we just "borrowed" approximately 30 million for our new buildings? If you need help in making tough decisions, please contact the Superintendant of Sturgeon Bay Public Schools and I'm sure he will gladly tell you about the approximate 1.5 million that has been cut from the school budget over the past 4 years. Sincerely, t1smith@charter.net
Michael Serpe appears to be the type of energized individual we have needed; I support his idea of borrowing to meet essential obligations. However, the Board of Supervisors is too big, creaky and unwieldy. Too many "old school, old thinking" people on that Board.
I believe it would be better to continue county budgeting on a pay-as-you-go basis instead of balancing the budget by going into debt. However, I also believe it is long past time for local governments and school districts to join with other local goverments and school districts to work for change in the state-imposed levy limits. LOCAL CONTROL!
Do not use LT bonds to subsidize capital equipment expenditures to get around the 2% state mandated cap. Pay as you go and make allotments annually for long term projects. You're only going to mortgage your childrens future just like the feds. Collect circuit court penalties and fines. What is the unpaid non-collected total up to now? Why have a circuit court system if there is no enforcement of the fines and penalties? Parts of government are just going thru the motions of doing partial jobs. There needs to be a closed loop followup to make sure all fines are paid or take away there drivers license. I pay a room tax almost everywhere I travel. All of door county needs a hefty room tax. Make the toursit pay for some of our costs! The economic development agency is useless. No new company is coming to STB to open a business. Its a dead end and there are no labor resources. Company after company can't find help and it will only get worse. Who are we trying to kid. Our future is tourism, so sock it to them.
From recent news stories, I think it is a good idea to use a responsible amount of debt for projects with a long life. publish in Door County Advocate the final budget before approved by county board.
Lower property taxes. I would like to know how the county can spend all the money that they collect.
Cut taxes
The County has to live with in their means. We all need to know that the taxpayer has limited resource. The average pay in Door County is less than the state average. Look at all areas with an eye as to if we don't have what happens next and what is the impact on life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness or justice for all.
Borrowing money to balance the budget is a slippery slope. Once you start it is extremely hard to stop. I would not recommend borrowing one year without a commitment to the five year CIP plan and what will be borrowed each year for the next five. It is the only way to get a true feeling for what will happen.
You absolutely must cut payroll --- we are being financially bled to death by the excessive taxation in this State. County and City employees do not live in the 'real world' --- the benefits are so out of line with reality. Cut, cut, cut !!!! It appears that the majority of you really don't understand the concept. . .
I think we need to cut back on unnecessary spending. As usual the government is always excusing itself and adding programs.
I believe That borrowing money to balance the budgetis only prolonging the agony of a budget cut and will ensure more taxing limits in the future. Sooner the better that you stop the run away spending for health insurance and law enforcement budgets. Wecan afford no ,more.
The high cost of health care benefits needs to be addressed with the county employees. They need to start paying for a larger portion of their premiums and the deductables need to be raised. This will save the county thousands of dollars each year and put the county employees in par with the private sector. The high cost of healthcare will become a priority only when the government employees feel its impact as do the private sector employees.
most of county government is an unnecessary duplication of state and federal programs thereby adding another costly layer of government

<b>Taxes / Budget / Spending (cont.)</b>
Need to reduce cost of benefits to County employees. Expecially health care. Need to negotiate contracts that are closer to private company health benefits. The County cannot afford the cadillac health care provided to it's employ ees - at the expense and substantial detriment of the rest of it's citizens.
Property Tax Freeze a nice benefit for the fat cats who want to own their multi-million dollar mansions here and don't contribute to our local economy.
Please lobby state government to change the current budgeting system that hamstrings municipalities and school districts.
I don't think the County should be borrowing money in an attempt to circumvent the State caps on locall spending. Borrowing to balance the budget, should be accepted by the County Board.
The County Board and city officers have gone overboard with building. One minute its green space, the next its big city building. Did they ever realize they had to be heated and maintenance care. Didn't need Justice Center or Jail. We're being told to get our own nursing home insurance and CBRF because Doyle has taken money away from Medicaid and care will not be as good, so prepare for yourself on some of our own needs.
We all like to live in a free, safe world, but realize it takes a lot of money to help provide that. We senior citizens have worked all our lives to be able to live rather comfortably in our retirement years. We hate to be taken advantage of. We hate to see our tax money used badly or in worst ways. I know the whole budget is very important, but please don't forget the many senior citizens of Door County. There seems to be more and more all the time.. many moving here to retire from out of the area. I know in recent years, in Florida, for example, when the developer sold a condo, or house or co-op property, an added amount was put on purchase price to help with additional expenses such as for sewer and water, for extra roads, etc. It's time we thought of that?!
In certain areas I have marked issues as "medium" or "low" priorities. This should not be taken to mean that I think they are useless but that these are areas where cost savings can affected. I think we spend far too much money on the actual mechanics of government, on things like mowing, and on things such as the Museum. I cases like the Museum it might be time to reach out to private donors to help fund such operations. In areas such as keeping up the soccer fields it might be time for sports fans to form clubs and hold fundraisers and kick in part of the cost of keeping those facilities in operation. Much the same for the Fairgrounds. Various Farm Groups (such as the Farm Bureau) spend thousands of dollars promoting their endorsed political candidates but maybe they should spend more to help keep a good fair and keep politics out of the barns etc. In the area of the NEW North program and other such economic development initiatives
Our new concern are the number of 6 figure homes that will increase the taxes on those of us who are part time residents with modest dwellings.
The county gov. seems to be unable to control its spending. For instance, the number of new highway dept. equipment, ie dump trucks, graders, etc. that the highway committee doesn't contain this spending. This only indicates in all deptments and levels of local govt. the group think that the inflated property evaluation in this county is a gold mine to be used with token restraint. Some time ago in a conversation with a former county board member he said citizens wanted services, I said I would like the roads plowed within a day of a storm but didn't have to be clear when I woke up. I fear the rationalizing for spending this survey will be used. We see at all levels of govt. the inability to control spending.
I agree that most of these points are critical. However as a private citizen I am not aware of the most critical on a sliding scale. I would hope all points could be fully funded. In the real budget world I realize that perhaps not all of these points can be funded. I trust the judgement of those making these critical selections and THANK THEM for their dedication. Sue Jarosh jarosh@dcwis.com
I appreciate the opportunity to express my opinion about services to the County. I realize that my responses probably reflect the servics that I have had positive experiences with and some from whom I have experienced negative experiences. I am amazed how the Board of Supervisors makes decisions without input from the citizens they represent. Not once in the very long time I have lived here has my "Supervisor" ever contacted me to know how I feel about anything and I mean anything. I would rate my Supervisor as UNNECESSARY. He sure as hell does not represent my needs. Not once have I been asked if I mind paying taxes. I expect to pay taxes and I expect to get an array of services from my tax dollars. Cut the tax dollars and cut the services. Cut the services and you gut the very fine place Door County had been to live. In fact, as the "Supervisors" gut services, Door County is becoming a not very good place to live. Call any county office and get put on hold or get a message to call back. Why? Because services have been cut. Walk into any county office and wait or hear that that service is no longer available or now costs more. A bit cheaper but a mere shadow of Door County as "great place to live." The position by the County Board of Supervisors to "cut taxes" is a political smoke screen, party jargon to keep themselves in position. I live by adequate means and increases in my property tax would be acceptable. Raise the property tax on a wealthy home owner and all of a sudden the Supervisors become very unpopular. People who are wealthy can afford private services. They don't need public services. People wiouth means have to depend on public services. Cut public services and you leave the less well off without anything. The Supervisors begged for a property tax freeze and are now using it as a way of legitimizing cutbacks. Schools, human services, public health. After all what is a community without services. Lets get rid of some Supervisors, starting with mine.

**Taxes / Budget / Spending (cont.)**

It is difficult to rate any of these items as low. I support Door County services and believe my tax dollar buys alot - for myself and others. I do not complain about paying taxes - we need services to reach all the electorate, we need to preserve the services we have and fight to keep them. Door County governmental offices are lean, there isn't much fat to cut. I applaud any measures to ensure Door County can offer quality services to its citizens. Of major concern to me is keeping our Village Branch Library - although not mandated, local libraries are a conerstone of a democracy. I am also concerned about cuts to social servcies, which took a big hit about 4 years ago. We need professional social services, especially in Northern Door. I am a retired educator/administrator transplant from another state. I am truly impressed with county services and with the school system here and glad that I relocated. Sincerely, Diane Fardig Ephraim 854-4704

Employees should be expected to pay toward health care benefits, more than a very small percentage. They can learn to live with these expenses as does the majority of the population.

Your survey questions are misleading in some instances, asking about two or more entirely diferent facets of that area. You did mention rising costs of services mandated by the State: If taxpayers protest the higher taxes enough they won't keep adding the "mandatory" services, and county gov. people can help by telling state legis. the same thing and by asking depts. and agencies to REDUCE their spending. I do sincerely hope that you will consider these comments, and the comments received from others, in your budget considerations. Some things, such as mowing soccer fields, could be done, or paid for by participant's parents. WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO PAY HIGHER TAXES IN THIS COUNTY JUST TO HAVE CADIALLAC-TYPE SERVICES. Wood Co., and other counties, have talked for years about building a new jail. They have more taxpayers than Door, but they think they cannot afford to spend all that money. How long can Door Co. continue to spend like they do? We all, in fact most of us, are not wealthy. The new Co. Administrator's idea to borrow instead of reducing budgets, like he says other counties do, is OUTRAGEOUS. If you read these survey comments, PLEASE TELL HIM SO. Make the departments and agencies reduce their spending like the taxpayers have to do. One example is: County employees can pay more of the cost of their health insurance. PLEASE DO NOT ADD MORE EMPLOYEES TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT. If the number of people receiving aid from S.S. has gone up (almost tripled) as much as the article in the Advocate says, the department should be ashamed of itself. Encourage people to get out and get a job, and they also do not have to have housing and furnishings better than half of the rest of us who pay the taxes.

Benefit costs for county employees are too high, and not supportable. Need to bring these in line with private employee benefits. The tax payer cannot afford gold-standard benefits.

i also feel programs that are really worthy of more finacal imput are left out this is very sad for the the next generation coming up

this couty spends money to excess. 34 million facility for drunks 5 new fire stations . Door county historical & thestate schools. Return to the old spendthrifts

Expenditures without public hearings (especially at the city level) are unethical and an assault on the democratic system.

**County Board**

The size of our county board should be reduced slightly, perhaps down to 15 or 18 as long as adequate representative of population and Charlie Most's salary should be tripled.

Door County doesn't need 21 supervisors for about 28,xxx people. A representation ratio of 1 to 2500 rather than 1 to 13xx is more realistic. All County offices with which I have had contact appear to be efficient, well run, and the employees are always helpful. paull@doorpi.net Paul Lambeck

Decrease size of County Board; Give each Co. Board Supervisor a yearly flat salary with higher salary for Board Chair and Vice Chair. This would make the Board more efficient. Too many Board members waste time at Board and COMmittee meetings reading materials they should have prepared before hand. Several Board members seem to think the Co. Board is their profession and try to milk it for as many committee assignments and meetings as they can. Serving on the Board should be a Public Service, not a means to a livelihood. I would also suggest that most meetings, especially Co. Board Meetings, be held at night so more citizens have access to meetings without taking off work. It might also inspire more people to run for office, especially younger, working people. The Board seems to be too heavily representative of retired folks and the self employed. Who looks out for the average working person? Prohibit a person from holding both a Town or Village Board position and a seat on the County Board. Too many conflicts.

I think you should cut the number of Supervisers in half and save money!

Reduce the size of the county board to 9 or 11 members

Make the county Board smaller.

Make all politicians, responsible for their actions. Their decisions should always be for the people, not personnal gains. Listen.

Operate the county as if it were a business. Cut the number of committies and meetings. Cut the number of county supervisors.

Get rid of the County Board and let the County Dept Heads and Administrator decide what is in the best interest for Door. They make enough money, make them make these important decisions. Also, get rid of the Union.....most employees do not even want it anyway.

<b>County Board (cont.)</b>
Since the county went to a County Administrator the various county committees, by state statute, are supposed to be "advisory". It is my opinion the make-up of these committees, in numbers, should have been DECREASED which surely is not the case. Please give this serious consideration!!! If the Administrator is not given the authority permitted by statute, why have one?
We do not need a county board of 21 members. We do not need new laws, when we do not vigorously enforce the existing laws. Especially when related to land use planning and shoreland zoning. It is too easy to change the plan for individual owners. Enforcement must be uniform. Kpagel@netnet.net
A smaller county board would help cut costs, and probably would make things move faster if we have a good Administrator who is not out politicking.
Commend the County Board, Committees, Dept. Directors and staff for the efficient, effective operation of County programs and services generally.
Reduce the size of the County board. There are too many elected officials. The board could be reduced by 50 percent and still provide representation. Unfortunately the question about the board did not address its relative importance to other services.
Reduce the size of the County Board to 11.
WE NEED LESS COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS
<b>Social Services</b>
I feel some people who are receiving food stamps and other services should be checked better. They just don't look for work because they can get free things. They should be made to look for work and help support their families. So much is left to everyone else to support other families besides their own.
I know that there is a long waiting list for individuals, with developmentally disabilities, waiting to receive services from DCCP. I think it would be beneficial to start getting individuals off of this list by increasing the budget that DCCP has yearly. There are many individuals in the community who need services from places such as Sunshine House. What are these individuals doing while they are waiting for services?
I fear there is still a need to do more "checks and balances" in the dept. of Social Services. MANY of our Door County residents have stories to tell about some very poor contacts and/or lack thereof from that Dept. when contacted. I won't mention names, but there are some pretty worn out secretaries trying to get your staff to answer calls and follow-up. I'm sorry but that is SO unacceptable! (In many cases...these are even volunteers or people looking to assist with the needs of that very department. Rather sad wouldn't you say!?)
There are also stories of people abusing social benefits, yet they always have money for drinking, smoking, drugs, etc.
Overall, community programs are beneficial when they help our own. However, too much aide can attract outsiders who come for the benefits.
Programs to increase the broad health of families will serve to decrease our drug problem, poverty, etc. Do not build bigger jails. Build healthier families. Go to the underlying issues and preserve the environment of this unique natural area, in order to sustain tourism and thus the local economy.
<b>Senior Center / Transportation issues</b>
If there is a 'need' to enlarge the Senior Center, then do it but a 'want' to enlarge it is unacceptable. Addition of any new full time Senior Center staff is unnecessary, especially at \$70,000 a year. Current staff with help from newly added part time or added hours can do all that's needed, keeping Knutson making weekly surprise check-up visits. Better supervision of current Senior Center staff will get all work done in good time. We seniors are treated well, helped a lot, and the lunches are excellent.
Expanding the Senior Center. It is very important for senior citizens to get out and socialize.
Expanding the Senior Center
Please put in more money for the Senior Center. It's the nicest place in Sturgeon Bay. The people have a great time there. The food is wonderful. The people that work here are great. There is something to do for everyone.
More activities enjoyable for men.. more crafts similar to those for women in effect before pt room replaced it. If necessary to expand, please try to use land to rear on right of Center. Moving to west side is very unpopular. Entire staff cheerful, friendly, helpful at all times. It's a joy to be here. (from Senior Center)
Transportation in Northern Door is increasingly important for elderly people who no longer drive. The Senior Center supplies a valuable service for this. Has any thought ever been given to bus service from Door County to Green Bay.
Please give careful consideration to our growing older adult population and their unique struggles to stay in the community based on geography, access to resources, amount of resources, and income levels
Public Mass transportation is a crucial need especially as the population ages. Take some of the money spent on automobile transportation and put it into mass transit. Also advocate for mass transit with other government agencies.
With our senior population being THE greatest number in this county please tell me WHY (and please don't tell me that "something had to be cut") a full-time social worker at the Senior Center was just voted down?? I think you could find ways to "screen" eligible seniors (those who REALLY can't afford to get any similar services on their own) from those who are there for meeting their "social" needs.
Make sure meals programs for Seniors are fully funded

## Senior Center / Transportation issues (cont.)

Regarding the Senior Center, do we really need to have all the activities that are provided. It seems like a social club for seniors, also providing meals under cost to those who can afford more. This should not be a function of county government.

The Senior Center should have a social worker to help explain benefits.

Consider a building for Seniors up north.

We don't need the family centers, other departments have the same services, why duplicate.

I feel the "Family Centers" are unnecessary. They duplicate services provided by the Senior Citizen programs, and the libraries.

Fund all services for Senior Center, Veterans, Library & Child Support. Crack down on dead-beat dads. Get ready to support state offenders with jobs outside of county. Marty Martinez 920-743-7672

Some sort of public transportation system for the county is essential.

## Sheriff's / Courts / Justice Center

DOOR COUNTY HUBER INMATES SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO WORK IN ALL OTHER COUNTY'S AND STILL BE HOUSED IN DOOR COUNTY JAIL. ALSO, DOOR COUNTY HUBER INMATES SHOULD NOT HAVE TO GO TO A DIFFERENT JAIL IN ( BROWN, SHAWANO,OR CALUMET) COUNTY AND THEN DRIVE TO DOOR COUNTY TO WORK AT THEIR OWN DOOR COUNTY BUSINESS. WHY THIS UNNESSARY EXPENSE AND COST TO TAX PAYERS FOR AFDC, FOOD STAMPS, CHILD SUPPORT, HEATING ASSISTANCE, HOUSING ALLOWANC, MEDICAL CARD. THE HUBER INMATE HAS HIGHER COST PER MONTH FOR HOUSING IN A DIFFERENT JAIL AND THE EXTRA EXPENSE OF THE TRAVEL AND AS A RESULT THE FAMILIES OF THE HUBER INMATES END UP ON WELFARE. LETS USE ANKLE BRACLETS FOR LESS SERIUOS OFFENDERS INSTEAD OF PUTTING THEM IN JAIL. LET THE LESS SERIOUS OFFENDERS WORK TO PAY BACK THEIR DEBT TO SOCIETY, BY WORKING OUT SIDE OF THE JAIL CELL. HAVE THEM SPEND THEIR WEEKENDS IN JAIL IF THEY MUST SERVE TIME.

Target "sacred cows" of DC govt. spending (ie.e Sheriff's & Highway Dept) to save money. Sheriff-we're locking up drunks and drug users to fill our new jail. Addictions criminal

As a city resident of Sturgeon Bay, it appears that the sheriff's department has dumped many of the services it provides to the other County communities onto the City's police department even though City residents pay the same in taxes as the rest of the county's tax payers for the sheriff's services. As a result, City residents are subsidizing the law enforcement services for the rest of the County. City residents should receive a discount on their property taxes to compensate for the reduced services the sheriff's department offers them or those services should be offered to the City the same as all the other communities.

In 27 yrs of coming to Door Co. I have noticed what we have in SD, an excess of funding for the Sherrif Dept and an under funding for essential services other that law enforcement.Door Co is like Lawrence Co in SD. We have about one Sherrif per criminal and not enough hand shakers. I have owned a lot op property here and the best thing my taxes have gon for are the Airport and the parks, Thanks Bud Walling, Box 5208 Sioux Falls SD, 57117

The DARE program is obselete and should be removed from school curriculum and replaced with a newer program that produces better results.

Get ready to support state offenders with jobs outside of county. Marty Martinez 920-743-7672

We have way too much police "protection" and gun wielding, arrest-hungry officers and a county jail that is way too big and a blight on the environment. Tear it down and provide rehab programs, we won't need the jail. Then get a DA that will do hi/her job the way it should be done and not play games that only benefit a few people, ie. people in city government.

Alternatives to incarceration, and treatment for alcohol abuse and repeat DUI offenders is crucial. Our Justice Center is full of repeat OWI/DUI offenders we are not addressing the issues that put them in jail. We need more funding for ederly issues, Alcohol and drug abuse, and mentally ill people.

I would love to know that the police force care enough to help stop the crime being done and I'd love to feel safe if I move up to Door County in the near future.

Need more \$\$\$s spent on prevention and rehabilitation Introduce victim/perpetrator program and the successful Racine rehab program.

. As for the DARE program, I think you can find statistics that program has contributed to an increase in the use of drugs in the years it has been used in schools. It DOES NOT work. Also, what's the use of having the HUGE vehicle that the homeland security money bought and it just sits there. Did we need that--even if the money was there to take--let somewhere else, where it was needed more, have the money. Yes, it is fortunate that we have not had a terorist attack, but could it have been used at Ellison Bay's tragedy. As you state on the next paage, we do hope you consider these comments, as well as those of others who write.

I feel strongly that the County must keep open its Library Branches. They are the heart and sole of a community. To quote one of the international students, "Why would a government close a library? It is the most important place to continue learning in a community and in only place that many people have a chance to use a computer." I agree with him. They are not a costly item for the county.

<b>Library</b>
There are too many Libraries in Northern Door County. I am sure that at least on of them could be closed to save money.
Why have your questions split the operations of the main branch library from all the other branches in the Door County Consolidated Library System. A House divided against itself cannot stand, as Lincoln has said. And what good is the main trunk without the branches?
Please don't cut library services. Everyone can use the library. It is the one service that the county provides that is available for the entire population besides roads.
The Fish Creek Branch Library is the most efficient of the Northern Door branches, for service, correct information, functioning computers and an organized work area as well as a good collection.
Save the effective and efficient library in Fish Creek.
Public libraries are essential to this community. The library boards know what they do and do not need and should be recognized as the valueable assets they are.
Look for ways to cut funds. Too many branch libraries.
Why are the county-wide operations of the Door County Consolidated Library System positioned against the operations of the Sturgeon Bay Library "headquarters", when the Sturgeon Bay Library is a branch within the Door County Consolidated Library System? Is the question designed to elicit responses in favor of centralization of the Consolidated Library System, rather than to support and strenghten the Door County Consolidated Library System established under Wisconsin State Statute?
Keep the Ephraim library open.
As President of the Friends of the Door County Libraries, I urge your considerations when looking at budget needs for our county libraries. We have something very unique in this county and have supported them well in the past. Let's continue our good record of stable monetary support of our libraries. Thanks, Delane Jome, Pres. Friends of DCL. dcjome@charter.net
I do appreciate the wonderful library system in door county. It is a free way I can teach my kids and experience the world without tv.
Library Hours on Sundays would be great for families. With school being in that is often the only time to do it
My wife and I respectfully request the Finance Committee to ensure that there are sufficient funds this year to maintain the existing eight Door County branch libraries. Please support those municipalities which agreed to join the consolidated library system in 1990 under Wisconsin statute on behalf of their year-round residents, especially children and the elderly, tourists and the seasonal taxpayers. Any branch library closure will weaken the sense of community, as well as the educational and cultural fabric of our Door County towns, villages and cities. Please don't let it happen!
<b>Highways</b>
Grass mowing, needs to be done more often on state highways...looked terrible this year.
Old Stage Road and other highly traveled town roads, should have center and shoulder lines painted.
Please STOP mowing rustic roads during summer when wildflowers and berries are destroyed. Wait until September!
Snow plowing needs to be done MUCH BETTER!!!! I have lived many places and Door County has the absolute worst highway crew that I have ever seen in operation, but mostly in Northern Door. Absolutely unacceptable. There is a thing called "salt"....look into it!
Did Highway T from east of 42/57 to Glidden Drive REALLY NEED to be repaved?
Better snow removal during the winter. I grew up in the Upper Peninsula and they do a much better job. Resurfacing blacktop with gravel in the Village of Ephraim on Q has made it a noisy, dusty, unpleasant road for bikers, walkers, etc. Double lines are needed in that area as well - the straight area .2mi from the admin./firestation.
Don't feel DC employees should be able to collect unemployment during winter months (bridge tenders). They should be blended into with other departments for maintenance or assist in snow removal.
Need to do a much better job of painting dividing and pavement edge lines on roads in Door County - must are presently almost invisible at night in the rain.
For the Highway Dept, Stop wasteing Hwy dollars on tar and pea gravel as a fix for county roads, most of the gravel ends up in the ditch after snow plow season, and the paint damage to cars that use these roads is severe. I'm surprised the County is not sued for damage to cars, not to mension the lose of driver control as well as the danger to bikes traveling on the road.
Way too much roadside mowing!!!! One tractor and mower would be sufficient, because that is two widths being mowed. Waste of labor time, killing off of vital plants, etc. for our ecosystem. One species' end, say butterflies, affects ALOT of other species, in turn. PLEASE, PLEASE, save the county taxpayers some monies and just mow with one tractor. Totally unnecessary to be mowing four widths and killing off so much growth... Makes no sense.
Provide bicycle paths in northern door county- perhaps separate from highways.
More direction signs on roads. A letter marking a road is not enough to find a town. Directions to towns must be indicated at crossroads. Some stop signs are superfluous. Some critical ones are needed: Gibraltar and Maple Grove for instance. Many are not obeyed by drivers!! Collisions? Educate drivers not too pass across double yellow line, not to follow so close, not to pass bicycles in curves across yellow lines or when other vehicles come in the opposite direction. Fines do not correct these problems. Bicycle lanes are needed.

<b>Airport</b>
I am surprised the airport ranks so low in importance. Here's a story from the 9/8/06 Green Bay Press Gazette on the importance of Manitowoc's airport. \$3 million runway project finished Manitowoc County Airport back in business By Kristopher Wenn Gannett Wisconsin Newspapers MANITOWOC — A stunt plane flew through a ceremonial ribbon Thursday to signal the opening of the reconstructed runway at the Manitowoc County Airport. About 95 percent of the \$3 million project to rebuild the 5,000-foot runway was paid for with federal grants, while the remaining 5 percent was split evenly between Manitowoc County and the state Bureau of Aeronautics. The project, which began on June 6, was completed three weeks ahead of schedule, according to Gary Kennedy, Manitowoc County Highway Department commissioner. At the re-opening ceremony, county officials and area business managers touted the airport's economic impact for the county — an estimated \$4 million in wages annually and nearly \$6 million in business sales, according to Curt Drumm, president of Lakeshore Aviation, the airport's fixed based operator. The airport is home to three commercial operators, The Manitowoc Company Inc., Red Lake Air and Lakeshore Aviation. During construction, the airport's main runway was closed for three months, which forced nearly all jet traffic to Green Bay or Sheboygan, Drumm said. Representatives from Burger Boat Co. and Manitowoc Co. Inc. said the airport is a community asset that is important to their businesses. According to Drumm: The airport is home to 68 aircraft, including two jets, four multi-engine aircraft, 61 single-engine aircraft and one seaplane. More than 35 hangars are on the field. More than 250 licensed pilots live in Manitowoc County.
Airport important, more important than most think, to help Door County improve economic development. Year around; it is the path of the future developments. Need a longer runway to accomodate small, medium jets. Improve Instrument landing system for poor weather operations; business goes on despite the weather. Jim Huhta P.S. I am NOT currently a Pilot.
Support your airport, it needs large improvements so businesses and private interests that depend on air transportation will choose to stay in Door County. It is even more important to support it so others will choose to come to Door County when the opportunity arises. History proves time and time again that municipalities who have great airports thrive, those who neglect them dry up. Continue to invest in your future. Airports will never make money on paper and shouldn't, but the indirect benefits are priceless for our residents and community.
I believe the airport is often overlooked as a critical resource for this community.
Operate the county as if it were a business. Outsource road construction and paving. Evaluate the amount of construction equipment and vehicles owned by the county - sell surplus. Sell surplus property, ie. old county highway shop.
Questions are too general. Example relating to the airport: Certainly the airport is an asset to Door County. But can a fulltime administrator (as well as other fulltime employees) be justified for such a small airport? Other airports larger than ours have administration delegated to Parks and Recreation or some other Dept for management as there is no need for fulltime employees.
I am amazed at the lack of detail questions regarding the airport. It seems to me that this access is critical to the tourist industry's growth and attraction. Having a well maintained and state of the airport facility is critical. mfabl@aol.com
The airport should have restrooms available to the public since the FBO is not open 24/7. One Port-o-Pot on each end of the airport. Also, the EAA Chapter has done a lot over the years to bring people to the airport to include: WWII bombers, T-34 training aircraft, Hangar dances, Fly-Ins, Breakfasts, Young Eagle flights for kids(these are FREE flights for kids ages 8 - 17, paid for by the pilots., Trimotor flights, support a longer runway and more. Some money should be made available to at least cover the cost of 2 Port -0-Pots on the field let alone some moneys to promote aviation in the county. Respectfully, Paul Spanbauer catchbigfish@itol.com
Review airport management and take serious steps to improve airport.
<b>Parks</b>
I do think the airport and Parks dept, are a #1 priority for the tourism of our county...
More parks and refuges should be developed for future use.
<b>Planning</b>
No more condos or multi-family dwellings in Door County
I found no mention of the county addressing program which coordinates all county addressing with the 911 system. This program is highly critical and should be maintained. There is no sense in having a 911 system if the addressing is allowed to fall in to the state of disarray that existed prior to implementation of this program.
We don't need 2 planners for DC. Hiring freeze after position vacated?
Have some kind of countywide zoning rules which can be enforced to prevent the sprawl.
County planning department may be more essential if they ever actually planned anything.
Consider disincentives for further condo development!
We need a comprehensive smart growth and economic developement plan in place to insure that Door County remains the beautiful and unique area that it is. Overbuilding, commercializing, and stripping it of the natural beauty will only turn away the tourists that have helped build this community. We need to protect our county for the future.

<b>Planning (cont.)</b>
I love Door County and would like to retire there if I felt it would be the serene and beautiful place I have fallen in love with and it had medical facilities for all residents. Please do not make the roads wider and faster to accommodate city people who are in a hurry...Door should stay mellow and slower paced than the cities. Please pay particular attention to vistas and old trees - don't permit those things to be taken over by private development. Thanks, Pat Whyte
It is critical that Door County's most valuable asset - its rural land and shores - be protected from development.
We love Door County because of the scenic and natural look of the land. Be careful of too much development! Protect and preserve nature, the land and the water. Once it's developed, it's lost forever. Our family has roots in DC history and we work to preserve the peaceful beauty before developers ruin it for future generations. Protect the land and it's people. Thanks for all your hard work!
Urge greater enforcement of ordinances on land use.
<b>Environment</b>
We need to protect our natural resources. This means that we can't live without conservationists.
Preserving Door County's environment and historic "quaintness" is vital. Don't let Door County become the Napierville of the North... or an imitation Dells. Continued enforcement of sanitary system laws is critical to our water quality, surface and ground. Zero tolerance for nutrient discharges should be policy for all of our sewage treatment systems. Treated sewage waters should be returned to wetlands so that it can replenish our aquifer. Ralph Valatka jordyce@doorpi.net
Given this beautiful County's reliance on its natural resources for so many factors economically, leisurely, recreation etc. the conservation of those sources, the environment should be the number one priority...without it Door County is just another county in Wisconsin.
Concern about the rate of recharge to the rate of withdrawal of water to the county shallow and deep aquifers with the rapid development of the county. robertmarlow@comcast.net
Place more effort on surface and subsurface water quality. We need to exceed state and federal mandates, for example in the use and discharge of phosphates. Requires data, publicity and possibly enforcement.
It's all about the water. Protect the water. Respect the land, and protect the water. We will be in a very critical situation very soon if the county doesn't start acting on behalf of our greatest and most precious resource. THE WATER, IT'S THE WATER, WE HAVE TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE THE WATER!!!!
Lawn fertilizers and all dish water soap containing phosphates should be banned. This will help minimize the vegetation growth in the water. It is right that we look at alternative energy sources. However, wind turbine energy may be detrimental for Door County because of its visual ugliness which would diminish the rural appeal of the land for everyone. Thus, turbine energy should be banned unless the towers would be hidden from the public eye. Thank you.
Essential to maintain the funding to complete the wastewater evaluation for the entire county this is an absolute necessity to maintain our groundwater into the future
I could ask what is the county doing to preserve the unique physical characteristics of our land, to protect the "Door Heritage" that has made this place nationally important. Where might this concern fit into the survey that I just completed? w_dewalt@itol.com
<b>County Offices (Clerk, Treasurer, etc.)</b>
Eliminate County Clerk office. Other offices can help take over the duties. Look into different dept. I believe some of these can be combined. You got family line and youth in action example. I am a senior citizen... 3.00 per meal is really reasonable. What do you get for \$3.00. A meal (more per meal). Social Services: I believe people on food stamps should not have any money left over for beer, cigarettes, unnecessary items. There are jobs out there if they want to work. Cut back on Social Services, Libraries in all townships. The towns should pay for services. At least some gov't center employees should not take up the parking space in the front of the Gov't Center. People using the facility should use the space. Check all programs and depts. I think a lot can be combined. Every dept. has the head of dept. plus _____? office help. Treasurer could be combined.
In regards to Real Property Listing Office, this office is a duplicate of services with Register of Deeds office and Treasurer's office. It has a payroll of approximately \$75,000 a year. This could be eliminated and the maps and map copy machine could be incorporated with Register of Deeds office. This is an office and department that should be eliminated and incorporated into a department that already provides this information. Please look into this seriously - it would mean a savings of at least \$75,000 per year.
What is the purpose of the Human Resources department? Could this department be housed with the administrator?
Do not fund attorney to defend private law-suits to get municipal managers out of hot water
(Sanitarian) Provide leadership to initiate and follow thru on using computer capabilities to replace hand typed data entry. Place dog/cat bite responsibilities to Health Dept. Does city provide financial responsibilities to services provided by Sanitarian? If not, when?

<b>County Offices (Clerk, Treasurer, etc.) (cont.)</b>
It's all about the water. Protect the water. Respect the land, and protect the water. We will be in a very critical situation very soon if the county doesn't start acting on behalf of our greatest and most precious resource. THE WATER, IT'S THE WATER, WE HAVE TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE THE WATER!!!!
In regards to child support agency they do not do a good job in representing their clients. It appears that those who choose not to pay child support are dealt with, a that is okay approach. If you seek outside help to assist in your case you will not be helped by child support. As it stands now, all CS payments are sent to Milwaukee--so why doesn't Door County let another county handle working with clients--because from what I have witnessed we are not able to run a child support agency without bias to the people we are serving.
Sanitarian's office needs more help to complete their sanitary survey of Door County in timely fashion.
<b>General</b>
Reduce costly overhead within some departments.
SOME OF THIS STUFF SEEMS REDUNDANT WITH OTHER AGENCIES EITHER GOVERNMENTAL (CITY, STATE OR FEDERAL), CHARITABLE OR PRIVATE AND SHOULD BE CONSOLIDATED AND/OR ELIMINATED. ISN'T THE ROAD WORK FOR ALL ROAD REPAIR, MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION FUNDED FROM STATE AND FEDERAL GAS TAXES. WHY IS THIS COMING OUT OF REAL ESTATE TAXES? WH2D@AOL.COM
only replace equipment that is too old or inefficient, provide another county use vehicle
All employees should be responsible for their own transportation costs for commuting to and from their jobs. This would save the County a great deal on gas and wear and tear on county vehicles. Vehicles should not be used for personal errands or transporting family and friends. Cell phones are for County business only. Employees can pay for their own cell phones for non-related County business, just like everyone else does. Departments need to differentiate between what they want and what they need.
Due to the financial constraints Door County is facing, what about creating toll booths for travellers crossing the highway bridge going north? Residents could purchase flat rate passes, so as not to be overly financially burdened.
More attention to keeping families and young adults in the county, so the elderly have a work force to provide services.
Learning to live and be creative outside of the box. Combining resources with other counties in the area. Why can't services be combined? Or offer services to communities by combining existing programs. You either pay for it at the local, county level. Help each other out.
SOME OF THIS STUFF SEEMS REDUNDANT WITH OTHER AGENCIES EITHER GOVERNMENTAL (CITY, STATE OR FEDERAL), CHARITABLE OR PRIVATE AND SHOULD BE CONSOLIDATED AND/OR ELIMINATED. ISN'T THE ROAD WORK FOR ALL ROAD REPAIR, MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION FUNDED FROM STATE AND FEDERAL GAS TAXES. WHY IS THIS COMING OUT OF REAL ESTATE TAXES? WH2D@AOL.COM
Prevention is key to making sure our youth grow up to be solid citizens (less jail costs, etc). Cut the deadwood (employees that don't do their share of the job, make jobs more efficient, quit mowing so much) Quit giving high paying jobs to the kids of county employees.
I think ensuring county services in all areas is essential to maintaining quality of life for residents. The county needs to have a bigger voice in State legislation. Grant writing/fee driven programs need to increase in the county departments to ensure quality services. It would be great if this survey included additional program/service ideas that departments may be interested in having, instead of rating what is absolutely essential and what could be cut.
I THINK THE GOVERNMENT CENTER SHOULD BE PLACED ON HIGHWAY S, NEXT TO THE JUSTICE CENTER.
I feel that Door County will be challenged economically by the demand for services for the elderly (a growing population), and young people. I understand, working with children's mental health at the State level, that we are doing wonderful work. The cost of quality, consumer-driven care will be high. I hope that we are able to meet the needs of this population during this rough time instead of focusing on economic development. There are places like Wisconsin Dells who bring in more trade, however we must question whether we want high commercial developments like The Wilderness in the County. Let us use our resources wisely. Thanks for the chance to give input.
I'd check into State health insurance rather than selfinsure
Peace is the answer. Anarchy is key.
<b>Tourism and Economic Development</b>
Tourism employs more residents than any other sector but has received the least amount of financial support. As a community, we need to recognize the importance of supporting the chamber's work to promote Door County tourism. When tourism improves, the strain on public assistance and social programming will ease. This is an investment we can't afford to ignore. This is an investment with a real return on our money.
Do not give money to businesses as payoff for coming into Door County to maintain a labor force
The county should also address affordable housing.
I thought the idea behind the economic development center was to help start up companies get there feet on the ground and them move out, seems to me that alot of the same companies have been in there since the day it opened? What a waste of tax money.

<b>Tourism and Economic Development (cont.)</b>
I would like the county's number one economic engine, tourism, to be recognized and supported. The work that DCEDC does is important to our economy and community and I believe the county's support for DCEDC is justified. However, tourism brought in nearly \$400 million to Door County in 2005, which translated into almost \$20 million in local government revenue. I think a financial contribution to the county's tourism industry, via the county's destination marketing organization, could easily be justified as well. The county could invest half of a percent (0.05%) of the nearly \$20 million that tourism contributed to local government, and that would be a great start, not to mention a solid investment and a way to increase the \$20 million amount to \$25 or \$30 million a year or more down the road.
Get rid of the DCEDC, in its place, bring in environmental professionals who will tailor development to the landscape.
Allocate funds to promote tourism to the area. Its an investment, as those visitors provide jobs and revenue to so many county residents.
It is important to keep Door County natural and inviting as a vacation/tourist/relaxation place to come to. Easily accesible by auto/boat/plane, and nicely accomodating for receiving those people. Nice marinas, nice airport, ample parking for attractions throughout the county. Advertise state wide, as the cost of transportation rises more regional vacations will be taken. Do not change what people are looking for when they come to Door County. Do not make it a Little Chicago or Milwaukee.
I think it is time to let the capitalists be capitalists. Government is their to provide services etc. that the free market cannot or will not provide and to serve all. It is time for business to take care of business. I view these "partnerships" as little more than socialist programs for those who already have. We have subsidized a very ineffective DCEDC for far too long. It is time for those who work there to try their luck in the private sector, something they are supposed to know something about. Chaudoir and Perlman et. al. should be in the job market they have failed to create here in Door County. If crunch time comes on the budget THEY should be some of the first to go, their record of job creation stinks and they should be paid a minimal base salary and then get a commission for each long term full time job they bring in. If we did that the folks at the DCEDC would all be eligible for welfare based on their performance.
year round employment opportunities in Northern Door County for local residents is a critical issue that would take a lot of people off of public assistance. Elderly care/assistance for people of Northern Door is also critical, many elderly people live here and don't have the available assistance needed.
We need to assure that recreational oportunities are opened for more user groups in the county. We need to actively reach out to these groups so that they can be included in planning opportunities.
Door County needs to remember that it is known for its small town atmosphere. We shouldn't over police it nor chase away new comers by dictating what they can and can't do with their land after they purchase it. We need to be informative prior to purchasing. Please note we are against mobile homes and steel buildings standing without residences. Elder care is the utmost importance due to upcoming population of Door County becoming the elder. We need to assure their safety, health and overall well being. Remember we could be talking about your Grandma, Grandpa, Mother, Father or even you...They are Door Counties future unless we find a way to keep our younger generation here. I don't think over policing them is going to do. What percentage of the jailed individuals that are from this area are over 25 years of age? Look into the past 5 years and current. Compare you tell us. Thank you for this opportunity to share our thought.
<b>Comments on Survey</b>
Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion. This survey was a great idea!
thanks for the opportunity !
We don't know how this survey is going to be very helpful. More information was needed to make an informed decision. How much money is spent in each of the areas, how is the county tapping into volunteers (library and museum for ex.) /how much did this survey cost the county?
Thanks for the opportunity to provide my input.
I tried to respond as best I could, but I think this "survey" was not a very good one. Unless a person had a very good understanding of all the items, he/she (and I) would have a very difficult time deciding whether a particular service or item was Unnecessary, Low, Medium, High or Critical. I laughed out loud when I came to the entry: Cherryland Airport. I checked "Medium", but what does that mean? That we need an airport only half the time? That we should fund it 50% of what it was funded previously? That it is cooked all the way through? If you really want responses to help you make budgeting decisions, you need to formulate better questions.
The survey is tainted in that several of the questions include critical and unnecessary functions which gives a deceiving answer. The County administrator should look at surveying each function within an organization. The question is "do we need it or do we just want it?" Also, out sourcing alot of the work should be considered as a cost savings since insurance and pension cost are large expenses that major companies are better at controlling. ualemp393@aol.com
I don't think this survey covered the area of waste of public monies.
Sorry but I find this a really unhelpful survey. What is anyone supposed to say, for instance, about the Treasurer's job. So what if it's high or low priority, it has to be done. Administrative functions are what they are. Salaries are negotiated by responsible elected officials although I note you did not ask about a reduced in size County Board. The Justice Center is, as feared, sucking the life out of the County's ability to serve its citizens.

<b>Comments on Survey (cont.)</b>
Some issues have too much included in them. Some things I favor, others I do not. For example, Adult Health Care, I question the need for Jail Health Care. I like the opportunity to have a survey.
Thank you for giving us the opportunity to vote on matters of importance. I hope many people take this survey so you get a good sampling.
There were no questions on plans for town marinas and so-called "safe harbors." I understood that our tax money would be supporting these, whether or not they are important to the citizens at large.
it's difficult to answer many of these questions when you don't have basic information as to the general current responsibilities of city, county, state, federal offices. We are summer-only residents with limited information in these areas. If we checked "unnecessary" or "low" it doesn't necessarily mean that we are opposed to such services. It simply means we question the county's responsibility in a particular area. indysrj@comcast.net.
This all was very interesting, as were the results. I hope you will publish the total cost of this survey. Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.
This survey needed to have another area to check -No knowledge. Alos I hope that this survey is not going to be used as a tool to determine where dollars go or cuts are made. If so, it needs to be sent out to all taxpayers, Many people do not use or have knowledge of computer use. You have targetted a very narrow group of people with this survey.
Surveys such as this are needed but this one must be considered totally unscientific and therefore unusable. The order of the pages/groupings was not randomized to reduce biases. Also creating biases are the inconsistant descriptions for those who may be unfamiliar with that program, etc. The fact that this is an Internet only survey automatically excludes MANY Doorcounty residents who do not have access to the Internet or the knowledge to use it. A survey like this should have been performed by professionals using a combination of phone, mailings, Internet, and if possible personal contact. Since this survey is so naturally biased it actually ends up serving as an example of wasted taxpayer dollars. Any use of this suvey's results by County representatives should be totally suspect
any thing that i rated lower is because i dont feel that the county does anything about it anyway
<b>Not related to County Government</b>
My only concern is that the whole county should have a say as to the Wal-Mart Supercenter as the effects, both good and bad, will impact the whole county. Let all the voters decide whether we want \$/or need a supercenter in Door County.
please please please a new wal-mart supercenter a grocery store on the west side
My concern from the 2006 budget is regarding the police department. I think that they need to evaluate a situation a little better when calling for Swat or blocking off city streets because of a suicidal man. I live on the block that was blocked off all morning into the afternoon and was not please at all how the situation was handled. the public was not informed to stay in homes rather than be on the city street. the fire department was involved and it must have cost the city a lot of money for nothing other than some small charges. This should have never gone this far.
Need better way of deciding issues like new Walmart - we need it badly but a very vocal minority delays it forever. Completion of the 4 lane highway to Green Bay will result in a large sucking sound as people who live here year-round drive by Sturgeon Bay and take their money elsewhere. Put issues like this on the ballot!
Condense 5 School Districts into 2 Districts. Both centrally located would be a huge savings that needs a high priority investigation if fiscal responsibility is your ultimate goal.
Provide high speed internet connections- wireless preferred.
Most people can't get the cable station on which the meetings are broadcast.
Get rid of all the illigal immigrants in Door County